



Well Water Testing for PFAS on Resident-Collected Water Samples – DEQ Results and Recommendations

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) did not collect your well sample and cannot verify that this data is representative of the chemical nature of the well water at the time it was collected. The PFAS analysis is extremely sensitive (at “part-per-trillion” levels), and the potential for contamination during sample collection and handling is considerable. Contamination of the sample by outside PFAS sources during handling may invalidate these use recommendations. These recommendations are relevant only to the PFAS concentrations provided to DEQ. PFOS stands for perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, PFOA stands for perfluorooctanoic acid, and PFAS stands for “per- and poly-fluorinated alkyl substances.” PFAS are a large group of chemicals used in many industrial processes, and includes GenX, PFOS and PFOA. To assist you in identifying potential health risks associated to consumers of this well water, DEQ is providing use recommendations based on the submitted analytical results.

Name:

Address:

Date your well was sampled:

TEST RESULTS

The concentration of GenX in your well water was: ng/L GenX

The concentration of PFOS and PFOA in your well water was:
ng/L PFOS, ng/L PFOA

(ng/L = nanograms per liter, or “parts-per-trillion”)

- ☐ The concentration of GenX in your well water is below the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) drinking water health goal of 140 ng/L for GenX.
- ☐ The concentration of PFOS and PFOA in your well water is below the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) drinking water health advisory of 70 ng/L for PFOS and PFOA.
- ☐ The concentration of GenX in your well water is greater than the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) drinking water health goal of 140 ng/L for GenX.
- ☐ The concentration of PFOS and PFOA in your well water is greater than the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) drinking water health advisory of 70 ng/L for PFOS and PFOA.
- ☐ PFAS other than GenX, PFOS or PFOA were detected in your well water. There are not health values currently available for these other PFAS.

USE RECOMMENDATIONS

Drinking, Cooking and Preparing Baby Formula Guidance

- ☐ Based only on these GenX, PFOS and PFOA test results, your well water is **suitable** for drinking, cooking and preparing baby formula.
- ☐ Based only on the GenX, PFOS and PFOA test results, it is recommended that you **do not use your well water** for drinking, cooking or preparing baby formula.

Bathing, Washing Dishes, Laundry and Harvesting Home-Grown Produce Guidance

- ☐ Based only on these GenX, PFOS and PFOA test results, your well water is **suitable** for bathing, washing dishes and doing laundry.
- ☐ Based only on these GenX, PFOS and PFOA test results, it is recommended that you **use bottled water to rinse food from your garden** before it is eaten.

Recommendations for Detections of PFAS Other than GenX, PFOS or PFOA

- ☐ There are no health values for the PFAS other than GenX, PFOS and PFOA detected in this well water sample. Without health values for each of the other detected PFAS, there is limited information to estimate potential health risks associated with exposure to the combined effects of all PFAS identified in this well water over a lifetime. One way to reduce the potential for negative health effects to chemicals is to reduce your exposure. Using an alternative water source for drinking, cooking and preparing baby formula is one approach to reducing your exposure.

ACCESS TO BOTTLED WATER

- ☐ **Chemours-Fayetteville is to provide you with bottled water.** If you have not been provided bottled water by Chemours, please call this number at Chemours immediately to schedule a delivery: (910) 678-1011.

HEALTH INFORMATION

For persons that may have ingested water over an extended time period with concentrations of GenX above the N.C. DHHS provisional health goal, or PFOS and PFOA above the U.S. EPA health advisory level, there may be an increased risk of negative health effects. The health effects associated with exposure to GenX, PFOS, PFOA and other PFAS are discussed in the included factsheets.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- DEQ was asked to provide use recommendations for the indicated well water PFAS analytical results for well water not collected by DEQ. DEQ does not validate analytical results for samples not collected by DEQ, or those submitted without the required documentation to indicate the appropriate collection, transport and analytical protocols were followed to ensure data integrity. Deviations from standard environmental protocols may have unknown and unidentifiable impacts on data integrity and accurate characterization of the chemical nature of your well water, including the concentrations of analytes reported to DEQ. In addition, some of the PFAS included in this analysis often found in many consumer products. Improper sampling methods may result in the unintentional contamination of the sample with chemicals or concentrations not representative of the actual well water make-up at the time it was collected. To assist you in identifying potential health risks associated to consumers of this well water, DEQ is providing use recommendations based on the submitted analytical results.
- DEQ staff not have enough information to know if, and at what concentrations, you may have been exposed to GenX, PFOS, PFOA or other PFAS in your drinking water in the past.
- The technology does not exist to analyze for all PFAS.
- There is limited health information for many of the PFAS found in the groundwater.

For questions about or your test results, please contact the N.C. Department of Environmental Quality at (919) 707-8200. For more health information, please contact N.C. DHHS at (919) 707-5900.